



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Attorney Docket No. 024754/0114

In re patent application of

Ke-Wen DONG, et al.

Serial No.: 09/252,828

Group Art Unit: 1641

Filed: February 19, 1999

Examiner: Lisa COOK

For: **RECOMBINANT BIOLOGICALLY ACTIVE HUMAN ZONE PELLUCIDA
PROTEIN (hZP3) TO TEST MALE FERTILITY**

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

Prior to substantive examination of the above-identified application, Applicants respectfully request that the following amendment be entered into the application.

IN THE CLAIMS:

Cancel claims 3-5 without prejudice or disclaimer.

Add the following new claims:

--22. A purified recombinant glycopolyptide of about 65kd to about 100kd that comprises 40% to 60% carbohydrate by weight and that can strongly bind human spermatozoa and induce an acrosome reaction in the spermatozoa, wherein the glycopolyptide is obtainable by a process comprising the steps of:

- a²
- (a) transducing a cell from a human ovarian cell line with a polynucleotide that encodes a polypeptide comprising a sequence as set forth in SEQ ID NO:1;
 - (b) establishing a stable-transfected cell culture for producing the glycopolyptide; and
 - (c) isolating the glycopolyptide from the cell culture.